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## MAJOR-SPECIFIC STUDY & INTERN ABROAD PROGRAMS

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### **FINANCING YOUR KEI PROGRAM**

Did you know that KEI programs cost less than tuition at most private universities in the U.S.A.? You can use financial aid to pay for all or part of the KEI program fee. There are various sources of aid available for study abroad. This document was prepared to introduce students to the different types of aid available. Students should speak with their university study abroad advisor and financial aid advisor to determine the best type of aid for their situation.

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### **GOVERNMENT AID**

Government aid refers to any financial assistance provided by federal and state governments. Federal law states that students can receive federal financial aid for study abroad if they are eligible for such aid and their home institution approved the program for credit transfer. Federal aid can be used to cover reasonable costs associated with study and internships abroad, including:

- Tuition and fees for the program
- Living costs
- Passport and visa fees
- Round-trip transportation
- Health insurance

There are different types of federal financial aid. Most eligible students receive a combination of federal grants and loans.

### **PELL Grant**

A Federal Pell Grant, unlike a loan, does not have to be repaid. Generally, Pell Grants are awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree. In some cases, you may receive a Pell Grant for attending a post-baccalaureate teacher certification program. For many students, Pell Grants provide a foundation of financial aid to which other aid may be added.

### **Stafford Loan (FFEL loan)**

Stafford loans are the major source of federal self-help aid, and come in two forms:

1. Direct Stafford Loans are awarded directly by the federal government through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program.
2. FFEL Stafford Loans are available through the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program.

Direct and FFEL Stafford Loans are either subsidized or unsubsidized.

- A subsidized loan is awarded on the basis of financial need. You will not be charged any interest before you begin repayment or during authorized periods of deferment.
- An unsubsidized loan is not awarded on the basis of need. You'll be charged interest from the time the loan is disbursed until it is paid in full.

### **PLUS Loan (Parent Loan)**

PLUS Loans are a federal source of funding that enable parents with good credit histories to borrow to pay the education expenses of each child who is a dependent undergraduate student enrolled at least half time. PLUS Loans are available through both the Direct Loan and FFEL programs.

### **Perkins Loan**

A Federal Perkins loan is a need-based loan used to supplement what a Stafford loan cannot cover. The program is in conjunction with the federal government and home institution, and available to both undergraduate and graduate students.

### **State Aid**

State aid refers to any form of financial aid sponsored by the state. Some states offer scholarships, such as the Georgia's Hope Scholarship and West Virginia's Promise Scholarship.

Some states also offer 529 Plans, which are college savings accounts based on stock portfolios. Rules governing scholarships and 529 plans depend on individual states. Since each state has its own policies, students should speak with the study abroad advisor and financial aid office at their home institution.

### **Using Federal Aid for Study Abroad**

Many students already receive various forms of government aid. Even if you are not one of these students, you may be eligible to receive federal aid.

Not sure if you are eligible for federal aid? Here are the criteria:

- You must be enrolled in an eligible (Title IV) Institution (your college or university) as a matriculated student pursuing a degree or certificate.
- You must be a citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States.

- You must have a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- You must meet eligibility requirements for drug-related convictions, as defined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- You must be registered for selective service (male students only).

### **To apply federal financial aid towards your KEI program abroad...**

1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), if you have not done so already. Make sure to indicate your home institution's Title IV Code, not KEI. (Federal aid is processed through your home institution.) Note that the financial aid year starts with the Summer term (not the Fall term). Most institutions set their FAFSA deadlines in March.
2. Speak with the study abroad advisor and financial aid office at your home institution. Many institutions have specific guidelines and procedures for students planning to study abroad. Make sure that the courses/internship you plan to take abroad are pre-approved for credit transfer.
3. Obtain a Consortium or Contractual Agreement for Study Abroad from your financial aid or study abroad office. This document will be completed by KEI and will enable your federal aid to be applied towards study/intern abroad. If your institution is new to study abroad, KEI can provide a sample Consortium Agreement to facilitate the process.
4. Inform your KEI advisor. We will guide you through the process and work with your institution to facilitate the transfer of aid.
5. If your financial aid will be disbursed after the program registration deadline, you will need to have the following documents completed and signed before the program registration deadline:
  - Financial Aid Disbursement Form
  - Financial Aid Deferment Agreement
  - Financial Information Form

Completing these forms will allow you to defer full payment of the KEI program fee until your financial aid is disbursed. Refer to [KEI Policies](#) for detailed information about payment and deferments.

### **INSTITUTIONAL AID**

Institutional aid refers to any aid granted by your university or college. You may be able to use scholarships and grants for study abroad. Speak with your academic advisor, financial aid office and/or scholarship administrator. Please note that work-study can not be used for study abroad.

### **PRIVATE AID**

Private Aid refers to scholarships, grants and loans offered through sources outside the government, your institution and KEI. Private aid is usually awarded directly to students or parents.

### **Scholarships & Grants for Study Abroad (U.S. Students)**

- [Benjamin Gilman Scholarship](#) - requires Pell Grant eligibility
- [Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship](#) - students interested in Foreign Service.
- [The National Security Education Program](#)
- [Fullbright Scholarships](#)
- [The Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships](#)
- [Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society](#)
- [Jack Kent Cooke Scholarships](#)
- [Amnesty International](#) - human rights summer internships; think Ecuador, Thailand, Kenya.
- [Corinne Jeannine Schillings Foundation](#) - are you a Girl Scout?
- [Gates Millennium \(Minority\) Scholars](#)
- [Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation](#)
- [Morris K. Udall Scholarship](#)- environmental studies
- [Australia International Education](#) - Australia only
- [Walter Jensen Scholarship](#) - French majors only
- [French Government Awards](#) - France only
- [Office of the Embassy Awards](#) - another one for France only
- [US-Ireland Alliance](#) - Ireland only
- [The National Italian American Foundation](#) - Italy only
- [Comexus Research](#) - Mexico only
- [Cultural Contact](#) - Latin America only
- [Lanic Awards](#) - Latin America only
- [Freeman Foundation Award](#) - Asia only

### **Resources for Canadian Students**

- [Foreign Affairs Canada](#)
- [Canadian Bureau for International Education](#)
- [Foreign Government Awards](#)

### **Loans for Study Abroad**

- [Student Abroad Loan Program](#)
- [My Rich Uncle](#)
- [International Student Loan Center](#)
- [SallieMay Educational Loans](#)

### **Student Loan & Scholarship Resources**

- [CollegeBoard.com](#)

- [CollegeNet.com](http://CollegeNet.com)
- [Broke Scholar](http://BrokeScholar.com)
- [FastWeb.com](http://FastWeb.com)
- [FinAid.com](http://FinAid.com)
- [GrantsNet.com](http://GrantsNet.com)
- [StudentLoan.com](http://StudentLoan.com)
- [International Education Finance Company](http://InternationalEducationFinanceCompany.com)
- [International Student Loans](http://InternationalStudentLoans.com)
- [International Student Scholarships](http://InternationalStudentScholarships.com)

### **Books on Financial Aid, Scholarships and Loans (Amazon.com)**

- [Financial Resources for International Study](#)
- [Free Money for Foreign Study](#)
- [International Studies Funding and Resources Book](#)
- [The International Scholarship](#)

### **KEI AID**

KEI offers four types of financial assistance to students - scholarships, grants, promotional offers and payment plans. This aid is open to KEI program participants that meet eligibility requirements. Students can apply for multiple sources of KEI assistance as long as they meet the eligibility requirements of each.

#### **KEI Scholarships**

The KEI Scholarship Program offers awards of \$500 to \$1,000 US per term. Awards are based on merit and need. To be considered a candidate, students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, demonstrate leadership potential, be involved in extracurricular activities and show financial need. In choosing scholars, preference will be given to those who apply early and those applying for two or more semesters of study abroad. The decision of the selection committee is final and is not subject to appeal. The deadline for scholarship applications is the same as the deadline for program applications. To apply for a KEI Scholarship, students must submit the following supporting documents with the KEI Application Form:

- Copy of your FAFSA or equivalent financial need documentation.
- A 500 word essay outlining how the KEI Scholarship will make a decisive difference in your study abroad plans. The essay should also include a description of your academic and extracurricular achievements, and rationale for financial assistance.

#### **KEI Grants**

KEI offers two types of grants. Refer to the [KEI Policies](#) for detailed rules and regulations for each grant.

- Consecutive Term Grant  
A \$500 grant is automatically awarded to students participating in consecutive summer, semester, quarter and/or trimester programs (ex: Spring and Summer, Summer and Fall, etc.). This grant can be used for programs in the same or different locations. The grant will be applied to the last term of study. The \$500 grant has already been factored into the fee for academic year programs.
- Go Again Grant  
KEI program alumni who study abroad again with KEI will receive a \$500 grant, applied towards the program fee. The Go Again Grant can not be combined with the Consecutive Term Grant.

### **Promotional Offers**

In addition to our low program fees, KEI offers special promotions that can substantially reduce the program price. These promotions are open to all students that meet eligibility requirements. Refer to the KEI website for detailed information about the following promotional offers..

- [Early Enrollment](#)
- [Refer-A-Friend](#)
- [Travel Free](#)
- [Group Discounts & Affiliations](#)
- [KEI Ambassador Program](#)

### **Payment Plans**

KEI offers interest-free payment plans to qualified students. Qualification requirements are decided by KEI on an individual basis. The maximum allowed amount for the KEI Payment Plan is \$2,000 US per term of study. In general, payment is divided into five monthly installment of \$400 US. Other options are also available depending on individual circumstances. We will work out a plan that meets your financial situation. For more information about payment plans, please contact a KEI advisor.

### **FUNDRAISING**

There are a number of ways to raise additional money for your study abroad experience. Getting your family, friends and neighbors involved is a good place to start. Here are some ideas that worked for other students.

- Doing odd jobs like walking neighbors' dogs, mowing lawns, or washing cars can help raise money for personal expenses.
- Holding a garage sale and asking relatives to donate items to sell
- Ask your friends and siblings to hold a bake sale and donate the proceeds to a good cause -- your study abroad.

- Appeal to your local community and religious organizations. These groups may set aside funding or take up special collections for students. Also, if you or your family belong to any community or religious organization, those groups may be more apt to sponsor you. In return, you may be asked to serve as a representative or role model in the community. If you participate in our clinical or humanitarian internships or volunteer at charitable organizations during your program, some community and religious organizations may be more willing to support your efforts.
- In exchange for sponsorship, promise a local organization (like a Kiwanis Club) that you will prepare a presentation on your study abroad experience once you return.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

For your convenience we prepared a list of commonly asked questions regarding financial aid and study abroad. If you do not find the answers here, please contact a KEI advisor, and we will be glad to assist you.

### **What law governs federal financial aid for study abroad?**

The U.S. Higher Education Reauthorization Act of 1992 includes provisions to facilitate the use of financial aid for study abroad. The law states that for each aid program, eligible students may receive aid when participating in approved study abroad programs, assuming the student remains enrolled at the home institution during the program. An approved program is one approved for credit transfer acceptance by the student's home institution. Federal aid cannot be denied to eligible students (those who meet the qualifications for receiving aid) participating in approved study abroad programs. Federal aid programs that students may use include the Pell Grant, Perkins Loan and Family Loans (Unsubsidized Stafford, Subsidized Stafford and PLUS).

### **How can I use federal financial aid to pay the KEI program fee?**

Federal, state, institutional and some private aid is processed through the Financial Aid office at your home institution. To ensure the transferability of aid to a KEI program, you should:

1. Speak with a KEI advisor about your financial aid options. We will outline the steps you must take to ensure transferability of credit and financial aid.
2. Visit the Financial Aid Office at your home institution to determine the type of aid that can be used off campus, the maximum amount of aid available for each term of study, aid application deadlines, and procedures for applying for different sources of financial aid.
3. Visit the Academic or Study Abroad Advisor at your home institution to obtain credit transfer approval for the KEI program. Credit approval is mandatory before federal aid can be applied to a KEI program.
4. Obtain a Consortium or Contractual Agreement from your home institution. KEI will complete the Consortium and return it to your home institution. This document allows for transferability of financial aid for study abroad.

**What is a Title IV Code and where can I find it?**

Higher education institutions accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the Department of Education receive a Title IV code to process federal financial aid. Use your home institution's Title IV code when completing the FAFSA. KEI is not a Title IV institutions since we do not offer degree programs. The host institution abroad, even if accredited in the USA, will not be able to process your federal financial aid since you are not a degree-seeking student at the host institution.

**What is a Consortium?**

A Consortium (sometimes call a Contractual Agreement) is an agreement between the student's home institution, KEI and the student that makes it possible to process federal aid for study abroad. Most, but not all, institutions require this document. Some institutions may prefer to enter into a Consortium with KEI's School of Record. Just let us know and we will make the necessary arrangements. KEI provides a sample Consortium for institutions not familiar with this process; however, most institutions have their own.

**What if my Financial Aid does not cover all my program expenses?**

Federal law states that financial aid can cover all "reasonable" costs for a study abroad program, including tuition, travel, books, meals and other related costs. KEI will provide you with a Budget for Financial Aid Recipients, which will include an estimate for total program expenses, both those included in the program fee and those not included. Meet with your Financial Aid Advisor to determine if you are eligible for additional aid. You can also look into private financial aid.

**What if my federal aid award is disbursed after the program's registration deadline?**

You can defer partial payment (the amount of your financial aid award) and still attend a KEI program. You will need to have the following documents completed and signed before the program registration deadline:

- Financial Aid Disbursement Form
- Financial Aid Deferment Agreement
- Financial Information Form

Refer to KEI Policies for detailed information about payment and deferments.

**What if my my home institution has a Direct Billing policy?**

Some institutions prefer to pay study abroad program fees on behalf of their students. In such cases, you will pay your home institution's regular tuition and applicable fees. KEI will invoice your home institution directly. Students who attend institutions with a direct billing policy may benefit from KEI's Comprehensive PLUS Fee option, which includes all services and items in the regular Comprehensive Program Fee plus airfare and meal

allowance. Your KEI advisor will help you determine whether your school uses a direct billing policy

**What if I am not eligible for Federal Financial Aid?**

Students not eligible for federal financial aid may still qualify for private scholarships, grants and loans. This aid does not require school certification, the student simply needs to verify enrollment by providing a letter from KEI, home institution or host institution. There are usually no costs to apply.

**I am interested in a KEI-sponsored degree program. Can I apply for financial aid?**

Students participating in KEI-sponsored degree programs in Kenya (U.S. International University) and Australia (University of Tasmania) are eligible for federal forms of financial aid. The financial aid documents are processed by the host university. Students participating in KEI-sponsored degree programs at all other locations are not eligible for federal-based aid from the host university, but may qualify for private student loans.